

## WEEK OFFERS STUDY OF DRAMATIC TREND

Engagements Just Closed Present Contrast in Old and New.

## WALTER EXPONENT OF LATER SCHOOL

"Paid In Full" Marks Wide Divergence of Methods From Classic Models.

By ALLEN D. ALBERT, Jr.  
An interesting contrast in tragedy was offered by two of our theaters this past week. Shakespeare, formalism, tradition, flourished at the National. Eugene Walter, colloquialism, modernity, flourished at the Columbia. The one emphasized the greatness of poetry, the other the greatness of dramatic as distinguished from literary art.

The later art is clearly the better. This is only a working out on the stage of the influences which have supplanted the French painter David with the American Whistler, the formal opera of Pletow with "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Tristan," the oratory of Burke with that of Lincoln. In every art the tendency is away from the arbitrary assumptions of classic drapery, or classic gesture, or classic allusions and toward the garb, the bearing, the illustrations of nature.

Why should it not be so? What virtue for the art of acting is there in "Full thirty times hath Phoebus' cart gone round?" Why give the poet laureate to any author because he writes heroics? In other words, why under-rate Shakespeare as a poet in order to overrate him as a dramatist?

The most exaggerated criticism of the author of "Moths" and "Richard III" is that of Moulton, who saw, or thought he saw, in a series of plays which defeat their own ends as drama, the very genius of dramatic construction. As a matter of fact the tragedies which Mr. Mantell acted from this author are a series of talking pictures, so amplified and developed by the actor as to produce a result not comprehended necessarily in the text. And this extra result is of the very essence of the drama—continuity of action, unity, rather of verbiage which (for verbiage value as poetry) is demerit as drama.

Why Not "Paid In Full?" But all this may be regarded as theory. The test of the pudding is not in chewing the rag. "Paid In Full" is the test of this week past. There can be no question that the audiences which put themselves within the scope of its influence were decidedly more touched, were more lastingly impressed, were brought to focus the lessons of the play on their own lives in far greater degree than those who sought out Shakespeare. This is only the plain truth. It can be verified every time the two styles of the drama are gauged against each other. But the mere indication of it in the columns of this newspaper last Tuesday brought upon this newspaper something of a snow storm of gushing inquiries to know if the type meant what it said.

"Paid In Full" did not crowd the Columbia throughout its engagement here, even so. The inauguration may be in part the cause. But it is not the whole cause. Because this modern tide-wave of social disaster has played to capacity only in the one-night stands and long engagements. The cities in between—such as Washington, Baltimore, Cleveland, and Buffalo—have not patronized it extensively. Why?

Many explanations are offered, but few are chosen. Some say American men and women do not like the prospect of seeing another American try to barter his wife away. Some say the play draws in the one-night stands on its reputation, and in the longer engagements because it gets its second wind; and it is to be noted that Monday nights in the intermediate cities are generally well patronized. But these are partial answers, all of them.

The larger reason is that the natural inclination of the heart—not the mind, maybe, but the heart—is toward the sunlight. Walking the streets, choosing friends, looking at pictures, perhaps even listening to music, human nature intuitively seeks out the light. Tragedy exists in spite of this tendency. It exists because it deals with life, because it exhibits life under a stress which most of us come to know only through such representation, because in some of the art-music in particular—the highest achievements lie in the relief of shadows. But nature does not reach toward it, notwithstanding. The loud near the great tree does not lean over into the shade; it inclines outward to the sunshine. This tendency must be overcome by plays like "Paid In Full" and they have not time to do so in a single week.

Sunshine for Inauguration.

A great deal of sunshine and some tinsel glittered at the Belasco in "Marcelle." The rare pleasure of hearing light opera with a prima donna who can sing! Miss Gunning is supposed to reach E. alt. Whoop! That need not keep anyone away. The rest of her singing is music, not a circus, and she makes music like a true artist.

Inauguration week brings the far-famed "Merry Widow," the Cohan minstrels for a return engagement, and DeWolf Hopper, in "The Pied Piper."

The first has been the greatest success in the field of light opera since "The Mikado." Three companies are now singing it. New York alone paid \$1,000,000 to hear it. In Washington it will stay two weeks instead of one. What is the answer? We will try to tell in these columns of Tuesday.

The minstrels have Raymond Hitchcock, making the hit of his life in black-face, and the minstrels were a wonderfully pulling inauguration attraction without him. Strong, Burnside and Klein are the authors of "The Pied Piper." We do not know this trio, but we know the Piper, past and present, and we have hopes of his pipes.

A Course of Lectures in Psychology

Will be given by The Very Rev. Edward A. Pace, Ph. D., of the Catholic University at Washington, D. C., on March 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, at 8 o'clock P. M., under the auspices of the Ladies Auxiliary Board of Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.

Anna Hanson Dorsey Scholarship Tickets may be had at T. Arthur Smith's, at the door, and at Rauscher's.

## "MERRY WIDOW" WILL VIE WITH MINSTREL PROGRAM

Reigning Musical Success Presented Here for First Time Tomorrow.

## HITCHCOCK STARS IN EVANS' ROLE

De Wolf Hopper at Belasco in Quaint Musical Fantasy. Live Vaudeville.

Henry W. Savage's original New York production of "The Merry Widow" will begin a two weeks' engagement at the New National tomorrow night.

In every important particular of cast, chorus, costumes, scenery, and all stage detail, this city will have the presentation that won a success in the metropolis.

The fame of the "Merry Widow Waltz" has led many playgoers to believe that this is the operetta's one claim to distinction. Such, however, is not the case, for there are over twenty-two musical numbers, many of which are equal musically to the famous waltz number and almost as popular.

Henry W. Savage will send to this city his famous English grand opera orchestra, under the direction of Louis Gottschalk. Sig. Nicholas Szabo's Tsiganes band, especially imported for "The Merry Widow," will be heard also.

All told, the organization numbers over a hundred players, singers, dancers, and comedians.

BELASCO—De Wolf Hopper in "The Pied Piper."

De Wolf Hopper in the tuneful, fantastic opera, "The Pied Piper," will be seen at the Belasco Theater this week.

The plot of the piece deals with the fate of the children of Hamelin Town, after they had been deceived into the hole in the mountain, where they were left in the Browning story. The Piper, however, it turns out, did not intend doing any harm to the children, but leading them to the top of the mountain, built for them the City of Innocence, where they and their descendants live happily for 500 years with the Piper, who never dies.

Then trouble occurs on account of a young and beautiful girl of the City of Innocence, who, by a strange condition of affairs, finds herself without a lover or prospective husband. The Piper, with his magic pipes, summons a handsome young duke from the outer world, and

(Continued on Eleventh Page.)

## ACADEMY

Matinees Tues., Wed., Fri. and Sat.

## GEORGE SIDNEY

In His New Edition of the

## BUSY IZZY'S BOODLE

Some of the Songs

The Sheath Gown Girl, Isadore, To Be an Actor, Say Sal, Under the Mazuma Tree, Sailor Boy, &c.

NEXT WEEK - - - TEXAS

## TONIGHT—GRAND CONCERT

The Metropolitan Quartet

The Musical Wilsons

Master Peter Becker

LIFE MOTION PICTURES

ALL SEATS 25c

## NEW NATIONAL THEATRE

Philadelphia Orchestra

85 Musicians

CARL POHLIG, Conductor

LAST CONCERT Tuesday Afternoon

March 2, at 4:30

WAGNER PROGRAM:

1. Overture, "Rienzi"

2. Vorspiel, "Lohengrin"

3. Overture, "Tannhauser"

4. Vorspiel, "Meistersinger"

5. Woman's Farewell and Fire Music from "Die Walkure"

6. "Waldweben" from "Siegfried"

7. Transformation Music, Act I, "Parsifal"

Tickets at T. ARTHUR SMITH'S, 1411 F St. N. W.

## NEW MASOMIX AUDITORIUM

## BURTON HOLMES

## TRAVELOGUES

Delivered by Mr. Wright Kramer

COLORED VIEWS

MOTION PICTURES

Tonight at 8:30

VIENNA

Popular Prices at the Box Office

## LELAND BARTON'S

GREAT ILLUSTRATED LECTURE

## Washington City

Political Brain, Social Heart of the Nation.

History, Art, Architecture, Statues, Parks, Institutions. Trip to Mt. Vernon, Arlington, and the Potomac.

COLORED PICTURES. Most economical, satisfactory sight-seeing at night.

8 p. m. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, February 28, March 1 and 2. All seats 25c. Carroll Hall, 918 16th St. N. W.

1627-24



De WOLF HOPPER, At Belasco Next Week.

IN MANY recent productions, the tall comedian, De Wolf Hopper, has by choice or by coincidence, played the roles of old men, and his old men have been marked by success, but so far he has never tackled a man aged 365 years old. That is what he is doing this season in the title role of "The Pied Piper," in which he appears at the Belasco Theater next week.

Where he gets his model is a mystery, as men of that age are not common, but from whatever source Mr. Hopper obtained his inspiration, his conception is a novelty, and many will want to see a man so long preserved that he has lost all flesh-like tints, and turned to bone and leather. The result is one of the most grotesque "make-ups" of Mr. Hopper's career.

(Continued on Eleventh Page.)

## NEW NATIONAL

The only theater in Washington offering exclusively American and foreign stars of the first rank.

Prices, 75c, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50.

HENRY W. SAVAGE OFFERS THE

## MERRY WIDOW

ORIGINAL NEW YORK PRODUCTION INTACT

INCLUDING

Donald Brian, Robert J. Graham, Fred Frear, Wm. C. Weedon, F. J. McCarthy, C. E. Wright, Frances Cameron, Franceska Kaspar, Teresa Van Brune, Blanche Rice, Etc., Etc.—with the

## Famous English Grand Opera Orchestra

Under the Direction of LOUIS F. GOTTSCHALK.

THE MUSICAL SENSATION OF THE ENTIRE WORLD

Engagement Positively Limited to Two Weeks

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## The Great Musical Events

of the

## Taft-Sherman Inauguration

will be the

## CONCERTS

In the Pension Building on March 5 and 6

Friday, 10:15 A. M.

By the Philippine Constabulary Band, of Manila. P. I.

And the

Haydn Male Chorus, Utica, N. Y.

Friday, 2:15 P. M.

U. S. Marine Band and the Republican Glee Club, Columbus, O.

Saturday, 2:15 P. M.

Philippine Band and the TAFT GLEE CLUB, Dayton, Ohio, and the Musurgia Club, Washington, D. C.

Friday at 8:15 P. M., and Saturday at 8:15 P. M.

Two Grand Choral Concerts by the INAUGURAL CHORUS of 600 Singers. Percy S. Foster, Conductor.

And the U. S. Marine Orchestra, Lieut. W. H. Santelmann, Director. Assisted by Mrs. Anna Grant Fugitt, Soprano.

Admission tickets to these concerts at 50 CENTS EACH

Will be on sale Monday Morning at

Sanders & Stayman's, 1327 F St. T. Arthur Smith, 1411 F St. Droop & Sons, 925 Pa. ave. F. G. Smith Co., 1225 Pa. ave.

N. B.—Each ticket GOOD ONLY for the Day and Hour Named.

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## PLAN NEW SYSTEM FOR VENTILATION

Columbia Theater Installs Novel Device to Insure Sterilization of Air.

A new system of ventilation has been installed and placed in operation in the Columbia Theater, which, together with the vacuum system of cleaning the auditorium after every performance, makes the theater one of the cleanest and most perfectly ventilated auditoriums in the country.

Several features new to theaters have been incorporated in the new system, which was inspected by several house managers from other cities. Prominent in this connection is the sterilization of all air before being forced over the heating coils for distribution throughout the house. Competent engineers have been at work for some weeks past developing the system, which it is confidently asserted, is one of the most complete and perfect in the country. The supply of air is drawn from the currents twelve feet above the top of the building and conducted through specially constructed ducts, over the sterilizing apparatus, dust extractors, and heating coils to the distribution points located in every part of the house.

To accelerate the exhaust a large fan has been placed in the dome which draws off the vitiated air as rapidly as it rises, permitting the complete change of all air in the building in sixteen minutes.

## ADELE VERNE COMES FOR SECOND CONCERT

Will Return to Columbia Theater on March 12 to Repeat Performance.

Adele Verne, whose success several weeks ago when she gave a piano recital at the Columbia, attracted wide attention, will return for another recital in the same theater Friday afternoon, March 12. Miss Verne is a young English-Bavarian, who has met with tremendous success in Europe and in the larger cities of England.

She came here some weeks ago, and those who heard her were enthusiastic over her work. Her return is largely the result of popular demand, and several special requests have been made of the pianist for certain numbers included in her former program. These have been forwarded to Miss Verne, who has assured Manager Fred Berger of the Columbia, that so far as it is possible, she will repeat these numbers.

## CHASE'S

The largest, handsomest and most popular theater with week bills surpassing the \$1.50 and \$2.00 attractions.

Daily Matinees, 25 cents only. Evenings, 25, 50, and 75 cents.

Fun Forecast—A display of stars worthy of the inaugural period.

## CHARLOTTE PARRY

AND AN EFFECTIVE COMPANY.

The World's Greatest Protean "Conjurer," Presenting "The Comstock Mystery."

Teeming With Dramatic Incidents, Cool Situations, and Thrilling Climaxes. The Event of the Season.

THE THREE LIGHTHOUSES. "A One-Night Musical Stand."

A Great Signation.

Unparalleled feats of motorcycle daring by Dr. C. B. Clarke ("Diavolo"), assisted by Miss Bertha Clarke.

The Acme of Heroic Courage.

THE BOOTBLACK QUARTETTE. Mirthful and Melodious.

"The Narrow Fellow."

CHARLES F. SEMON. His antics in Scotch kilts and his original comicities are laughable in the extreme.

SCOTT AND WILSON. The Ingenious Inventors of Fun.

Extra Added Attraction. London's Best Comiques.

THE McNAUGHTONS. "The biggest scream of the season." Boston Journal.

"America has no comedians like them."—N. Y. Sun.

THE AMERICAN VITAGRAPH. "Hunting Crocodiles."

NEXT WEEK—MONTGOMERY & MOORE. LATE OF ZIEGFELD'S "TOLLIES" CO. SIX TUNNETS. "SAM AND ALBERT." 7c. Co. Ac. Buy Seats Tomorrow.

## GAYETY THEATRE

Ninth St. Near F.

Week Commencing Monday

Matinee, March 1, 1909.

The Big Inauguration Attraction

## Phil Sheridan City Sports

and

Big Sensation Burlesquers

with

## A Garden of Girls

30—Bonnie Bright Chorus Beauties—30

40—People, Mostly Girls—40

10—Funny Comedians—10

5—Large Vaudeville Acts—5

8—About Hannad Troupe—8

10—KUDAKA JAPS—10

Come early and you won't have to go way back and stand up.

Next Week—The Parisian Widows

Grand Concert Tonight

SHEPARD'S PICTURES 10c-15c-25c Patterson and Williams Leonard Chick Illustrated Songs

**Columbia**  
Washington's Leading Theatre

PRICES: 50c to \$2  
Matinees Wed., Fri. and Sat.  
Popular Prices, 50c to \$1.50

Reserved seats for all parts of the theater, including the gallery, may be purchased one week in advance at the Box Office.

## TOMORROW NIGHT AT 8:15 SHARP

The World's Mastodontic Minstrel Show of the Century, the Most Expensively Presented and the Highest Salaried Organization of the Kind Ever Conceived Since the Birth of Minstrelsy.

## COHAN & HARRIS MINSTRELS

Specially Engaged, The Eminent Comic Opera Comedian

## RAYMOND HITCHCOCK

HIS FIRST APPEARANCE IN BLACKFACE

The World's Greatest Impersonator of Feminine Characters.

Assisted by 100 Honey Boys

RICE & PREVOST, WATERBURY BROS. & TENNEY, JOHN KING, BENNETT TENNEY, ALF. GIBSON, FRANK MORRELL, MATT KEEFE, HARRY MORSE, EARL BENHAM.

## WEEK OF MARCH 8TH

## MAY ROBSON

IN

## THE REJUVENATION OF AUNT MARY

By ANNE WARNER.

SEATS NOW ON SALE

Today at 3 P. M. SIMOND'S

Tonight at 8:15 POPULAR CONCERTS

Incidents in the Sinking of the Steamship "Republic." Reception of Bins, Etc.

PRICE: TO ALL PARTS OF THE HOUSE, 25c

## BELASCO

A Theatre Presenting at All Times Only the Representative Foreign and American Artists and Attractions.

Commencing Tomorrow Night at 8 o'clock

SAM S. and LEE SHUBERT (Inc.)

PRESENT

THEIR LARGEST MUSICAL ORGANIZATION

## DeWOLF HOPPER

In an Operatic Fantasy

## THE PIED PIPER

Book by Austin Strong and E. M. Burnside

Music by Manuel Klein

Original New York Cast

100 PEOPLE QUAINLY COSTUMED—BEAUTIFUL MELODIES.

A PRETTY LOVE STORY—NO END OF FUN.

50—DANCING GIRLS—50

The Curtain Will Rise Promptly at 8 o'clock at Evening and 2 o'clock at Matinee Performances, and Patrons are Requested to Be Seated Prior to That Time.

Next Week

Harrison Grey Fiske Presents

## Bertha Kalich

In an American Play by Thomas Dickinson

## THE UNBROKEN ROAD

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## NEW LYCEUM

SMOKING PERMITTED IN ALL PARTS OF